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6 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
7 DISTRICT OF ARIZONA

8 United States of America,  
9 Plaintiff,  
10 v.  
11 Pedro Vital-Granados,  
12 aka Leonicio Cortez-Hernandez,  
13 Defendant.

MAGISTRATE NO. 08-0438M

**Order Granting Parties' Joint Motion  
to Extend Time to Indict**

14 HAVING considered the parties' Joint Motion for Extension of Time to Indict and good  
15 cause having been shown;

16 THE COURT makes the following findings:

- 17 1. Counsel for defendant has only recently been appointed;
- 18 2. The defendant earnestly wishes to consider the plea offer extended by the
- 19 government;
- 20 3. The defendant wishes to investigate possible defenses prior to considering the
- 21 government's plea offer, which is made pursuant to a 'fast track' early disposition
- 22 program authorized by the Department of Justice pursuant to § 401(m) of the
- Prosecuting Remedies and Tools Against the Exploitation of Children Today Act
- 23 of 2003 (PROTECT Act), Pub. L. 108-21, 117 Stat. 650 (Apr. 30, 2003);
- 24 4. The government's plea offer, if accepted by the defendant and then the court,
- would likely reduce defendant's exposure to a significant term of imprisonment;
- 25 5. If the defendant does not timely accept the plea offer prior to indictment, the
- government will withdraw said plea offer and any subsequent plea offer after
- 26 indictment would likely be less advantageous to the defendant;
- 27 6. Failure to extend time for indictment in this instance would thus operate to bar
- 28 defendant from reviewing the government's plea offer in a meaningful way prior
- to indictment;

- The Court therefore concludes that the ends of justice are best served by granting an extension of time to present the case to the grand jury and in excluding a period of thirty (30) days under the Speedy Trial Act. In making this determination, the Court has particularly taken into account that the failure to grant the Defendant's request "would deny counsel for the defendant . . . the reasonable time necessary for effective preparation, taking into account the exercise of due diligence." 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(8)(B)(iv).

**IT IS FURTHER ORDERED** that pursuant to the Speedy Trial Act, 18 U.S.C. § 3161, the Government shall have an extension of thirty (30) days to file a timely Indictment. Excludable time shall begin to run on the 31st day after arrest for a period of thirty (30) days in which the Government may present the case to the grand jury.

DATED this 7th day of October, 2008.

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